

The Local Coronavirus Urgent Remediation Emergency (or Local CURE) Support Program

*A Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) Assistance Program
for Local Governments*





The Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)



- Section 5001 of the Federal CARES Act created the Coronavirus Relief Fund.
- Use of CRF is authorized in Section 5001 of the CARES Act and all subsequent guidance by the [US Treasury](#).
- The CARES Act requires that the payments from the Coronavirus Relief Fund only be used to cover expenses that—
 1. are necessary expenditures incurred due to the public health emergency with respect to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19);
 2. were not accounted for in the budget most recently approved as of March 27, 2020 (the date of enactment of the CARES Act) for the State or local government; and
 3. were incurred during the period that begins on March 1, 2020, and ends on December 30, 2020.



The Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)



- The [US Treasury](#) has released several FAQ documents, aiming to clarify CRF use.
- The main list of **nonexclusive** examples of eligible expenditures CRF is:
 1. Medical expenses.
 2. Public health expenses.
 3. Payroll expenses for public safety, public health, health care, human services, and similar employees whose services are substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
 4. Expenses of actions to facilitate compliance with COVID-19-related public health measures.
 5. Expenses associated with the provision of economic support in connection with the COVID-19 public health emergency.
 6. Any other COVID-19-related expenses reasonably necessary to the function of government that satisfy the Fund's eligibility criteria.

The Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)



- Illinois received \$4,913,633,437 in CRF dollars.
- Direct disbursements were made by the federal government to cities or counties with populations of 500,000 or more.
 - Chicago received \$470,078,037.60
 - Cook Co. received \$428,597,905.20
 - DuPage Co. received \$161,042,597.50
 - Kane Co. received \$92,900,217.90
 - Lake Co. received \$121,539,986.20
 - Will Co. received \$120,529,326.90
- The balance of \$3,518,945,365.70 was left for statewide allocation.



The Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)



- From the statewide allocation of CRF, the General Assembly and the Governor appropriated several programs to help Illinois battle COVID-19.
 - Emergency Management Agency (IEMA)
 - Operational costs for state agencies
 - Department of Revenue (DOR)
 - Rental and mortgage assistance program through the Illinois Housing Development Authority (IHDA)
 - Department of Human Services (DHS)
 - Mental health, substance abuse and other counseling services



The Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF)



- From the statewide allocation of CRF, the General Assembly and the Governor appropriated several programs to help Illinois battle COVID-19. (cont.)
 - Healthcare and Family Services (HFS)
 - Pandemic stability payments for healthcare providers program
 - Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO)
 - Support for local governments program
 - Business interruption grant program
- The Governor's Office of Management and Budget published a report on Illinois' Federal Coronavirus Response Funds and Anticipated Uses, which can be accessed [here](#).

DCEO's CRF Programs

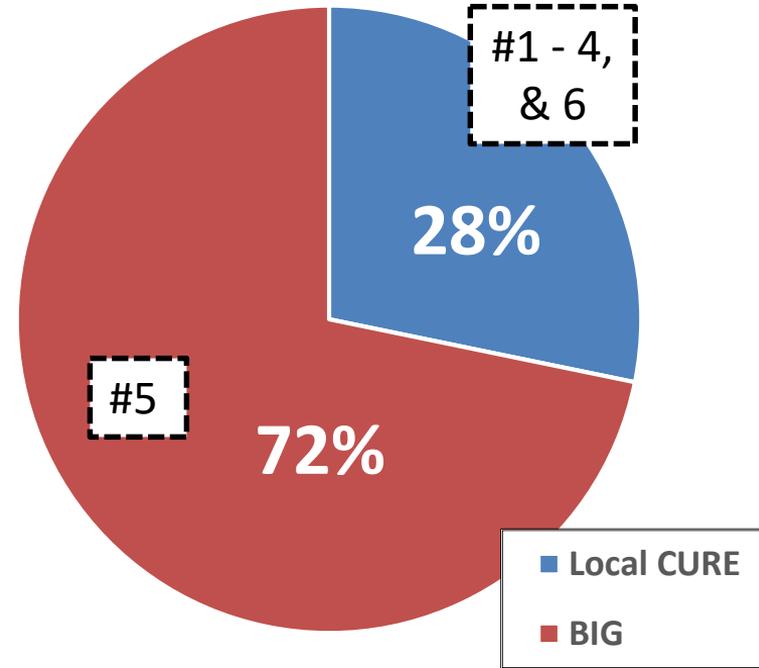


- DCEO's two programs were appropriated in article 30 of [PA 101-0637](#).
- Both have enabling program language in Articles 3 & 75 of the Budget Implementation Bill, passed in [PA 101-0636](#).
- **\$250M** for the Local Coronavirus Urgent Remediation Emergency (or Local CURE) Support Program.
- **\$636M** for the Business Interruption Grant (BIG) Program.
 - Half of these funds will be allocated for rounds of small business assistance.
 - For more information email CEO.BIG@Illinois.gov or visit Illinois.gov/dceo and click on "BIG".
 - And half will fund the Child Care Restoration Grant program hosted by DHS and our partner ICCRRA.
 - For more information email ccrg@inccrra.org or visit ilgateways.com/financial-opportunities/restoration-grants

DCEO's CRF Programs



- The main list of **nonexclusive** examples of eligible expenditures for CRF is:
 1. Medical expenses.
 2. Public health expenses.
 3. Payroll expenses for public safety, public health, etc.
 4. Expenses of actions to facilitate compliance with COVID-19-related public health measures.
 5. Expenses associated with the provision of economic support.
 6. Any other COVID-19-related expenses reasonably necessary to the function of government.





Local CURE



- A local government assistance program which applies to all units of local government (as defined by the Illinois Constitution) outside of Cook, Lake, Will, Kane, & DuPage counties.
- "Units of local government" means:
 - Counties;
 - Municipalities;
 - Townships; and
 - Special districts, and units, designated as units of local government by law, which exercise limited governmental powers or powers in respect to limited governmental subjects; BUT
 - **Does not include School Districts**

Local CURE

Reimbursable Expenditure Test: (If “TRUE” can be answered for all of the below, Local CURE funds may be used)



- The expense is connected to the COVID-19 emergency.
- The expense is “necessary”.
- The expense is not filling a short fall in government revenues.
- The expense is not funded thru another budget line item, allotment or allocation, as of March 27, 2020.
- The expense is not being reimbursed through a different emergency response program.
- The expense wouldn’t exist without COVID-19 OR would be for a “substantially different” purpose.
- The expense was incurred between March 1, 2020 and December 30, 2020. “Incurred” means services were performed or goods were received by the local government between March 1, 2020 and December 30, 2020. Payment need not be made during this time, but must be made before January 31, 2021.

Local CURE

Program Basics: Example Costs eligible for reimbursement:



- **Medical expenses**, including but not limited to: expenses of establishing temporary public medical facilities and other measures to increase COVID-19 treatment capacity, costs of providing COVID-19 testing, and emergency medical response expenses;
- **Public health expenses**, including but not limited to: expenses for communication and enforcement by local governments of public health orders related to COVID-19;
- **Payroll expenses** for public safety, public health, health care, human services, and similar employees whose services were **substantially dedicated** to mitigating or responding to COVID-19;
- **Expenses for actions taken to facilitate compliance** with COVID-19 related public health measures;
- **Any other COVID-19 related expenses** reasonably necessary for the unit of local government to respond to the public health emergency that satisfies the Local CURE Program eligibility criteria. Local governments **must** document how expenses are related to COVID-19.

Local CURE

Program Basics: Example Costs ineligible for reimbursement:



- Governmental revenue shortfall replacement;
- Damages covered by insurance;
- Payroll or benefits expenses for employees whose work duties are not substantially dedicated to mitigating or responding to the COVID-19 public health emergency;
- Expenses associated with the provision of economic support in connection with COVID-19;
- Reimbursement to donors for donated items or services;
- Workforce bonuses other than hazard pay or overtime;
- Severance pay;
- Legal settlements;
- Indirect costs or administrative costs; and
- Incurred expenses that have been or will be reimbursed through another State or federal funding opportunity.



Local CURE

Application Process



- Local CURE is a reimbursement program.
- The State of Illinois Uniform Intergovernmental Grant Agreement is not utilized.
- Instead, a certification form governs the process and local governments will seek payment using a reimbursement form.
- This process does not require registration in the GATA portal.
- An active SAM.gov registration is required throughout the duration of the program.

Local CURE

Application Process – 1



1. Based on rule or application, DCEO drafts a certification outlining a “not to exceed” value for which the local government may claim reimbursements under the program.
 - DCEO will draft certifications and send them to local governments for review in the month of July.
 - County, Municipality, and Certified Public Health Departments **do not need to apply**; the proper certification document will be delivered via email through your designated point of contact.
 - If you have a preferred point of contact, please email it to CEO.CURE@Illinois.gov
 - Otherwise DCEO will use information in the GATA system or from various partners to obtain contact information.

Local CURE

Application Process – 1a



“Based on rule or application DCEO drafts a certification”

By rule “Allotment A” is for County and Municipal Governments

- Counties and Municipalities DO NOT need to apply for assistance.
- 14 Ill. Admin. Code § 700.80(a) allocates 80% of the program’s assistance and by rule the department has determined how much will be initially allocated to each County and Municipality. The searchable PDF linked below indicates each amount.
- [Allotment A Detail: Per Capita Formula allotments for Counties & Municipalities](#)

Local CURE

Application Process – 1b



“Based on rule or application DCEO drafts a certification”

By rule “Allotment B” is for Certified Local Public Health Departments

- Certified Local Public Health Departments DO NOT need to apply for assistance.
- 14 Ill. Admin. Code § 700.80(b) allocates 5% of the program’s assistance and by rule the department has determined how much will be initially allocated to each Certified Local Public Health Department. The searchable PDF linked below indicates each amount.
- [Allotment B Detail: Per capita and low-income population distribution to Certified Local Public Health Departments, based on IDPH's Local Health Protection Grant formula](#)

Local CURE

Application Process – 1c



“Based on rule or application DCEO drafts a certification”

By rule “Allotment C” is for all other Units of Local Government

- All other units of local government not covered by the above allotments must **apply** for assistance under the program.
- 14 Ill. Admin. Code § 700.80(c) allocates 8% of the program’s assistance for other units of local government.
- Local governments serving [areas](#) which have been most disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 public health emergency will be prioritized in the application process.
- To apply for assistance, complete the application [here](#). The application will be open until July 24th at 4pm CST.

Local CURE

Application Process – 2 & 3



2. Next, local governments will complete reimbursement requests and send them to DCEO's partner for review.
 - In late-July or early-August DCEO and a qualified partner will host technical assistance calls and webinars to explain the process for the program and distribute a manual for completing reimbursement requests.
3. DCEO's partner will review reimbursement requests and support documentation for eligibility.
 - Local governments will need to provide justification on how expenditures are related to COVID.
 - Local governments will need to attest that their reimbursement submissions are true, accurate, and costs have not been claimed through another emergency relief program.

Local CURE

Application Process – 4 & 5



4. After thorough review and approval, DCEO will release the reimbursement payment to the local government.
 - DCEO's partner will review 100% of reimbursement requests and supporting documentation.
 - It will be DCEO's and our partner's goal to turn around requests within 5 – 7 business days.
 - At the start of the program there could be some delays; DCEO anticipates over 1,200 local government units to participate in the program.
5. Throughout the process DCEO's partner will provide ongoing technical assistance.

Local CURE

Preparation



- Make sure your unit of local government is registered with SAM.gov.
- Review the [US Treasury guidance](#), including subsequent updates and FAQs.
- Review the program's [administrative rules](#) (soon to be posted under 14 Ill. Admin. Code Part 700).
- Start collecting receipts for COVID-19 related expenses & digitize them; the department will seek PDFs and other electronic forms of back-up for reimbursements.
 - We recommend organizing receipts by month, it is likely reimbursement forms will cover one or multiple months at a time.

Local CURE

Preparation



- In addition, carefully consider descriptions and rationale on how expenditures were necessary in the local government's response to the COVID-19 public health emergency.
- Begin organizing year to date expenditures into the categories below:
 - Payroll for public health and safety employees
 - Budgeted personnel and services diverted to a substantially different use
 - Improvement to telework capabilities of public employees
 - Medical expenses
 - Public health expenses
 - Distance learning
 - All items not listed above



Local CURE

Tentative Timeline



July 6th - Open application for other units of local government.

July 24th – Close application for other units of government.

July 29th – Host technical assistance webinar.

August 1st – Reimbursement Period Begins

November 1st or later – DCEO may conduct a reallocation of funds to areas with remaining need; funds will not be surrendered from local governments if their reimbursement needs remain. DCEO has no authority to redirect funds from this program to something other than Local Government support.

December 30th – On an accrual basis, this is the final day a cost may be attributed to the program.

Questions?

Thank You!

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Illinois
Department of Commerce
& Economic Opportunity
JB Pritzker, Governor